AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a first memory for storing image data;

an image input unit for inputting the image data to the first memory;

a second memory for storing image forming conditions;

an image output unit for printing the image data stored in the first memory under the image forming conditions stored in the second memory;

a command ~~means~~ unit for generating a command of discarding the image data being printed from the image output unit;

an image data discarding controller for discarding the image data stored in the first memory when the command of discarding the image data is generated by the command ~~means~~ unit, while maintaining the associated image forming conditions stored in the second memory; ~~and~~

a job stopping controller for stopping a print operation of a job being printed by the image output unit; and

an output control unit for causing the output unit to output image data newly input from the image input unit under the maintained image forming conditions;

wherein the command ~~means~~ unit generates a command of discarding the image data of the job stopped by the job stopping controller; and

wherein the image data discarding controller discards the image data of the job stopped by the job stopping controller and maintains the image forming conditions of the job.

2. (Canceled)

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3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 3, further comprising change means for changing the maintained image forming conditions.

5. (canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein the image input unit is an image reader for reading the image from the original and acquiring the image data, wherein the image output unit and the image reader operate independently.

7. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein if the image reader is reading another original, the command ~~means~~ unit generates

a command of suspending the reading operation, and at the same time, it generates a command of discarding the image data to be printed.

8. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 6, wherein if the image reader is reading another original, the command ~~means~~ unit generates a command of discarding the image data to be printed after the reading operation for another original has been completed.

9. (Original) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the image output unit is a printer for printing an image on a paper based on the image data.

10. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

an image reader for reading an original and acquiring image data of the original;

an image memory for storing the image data acquired by the image reader;

a mode memory for storing image forming conditions selected for the acquired image data;

a printer for printing an image on a paper, based on the image data stored in the image memory, under the image forming conditions stored in the mode memory;

a command ~~means~~ unit for generating a command of discarding the image data being printed by the printer;

an image data discarding controller for discarding the image data stored in the image memory when the command of discarding the image data is generated by the

command ~~means~~ unit, while maintaining the associated image forming conditions stored in the mode memory;

a print control ~~means~~ unit for causing the printer to print another image data newly read by the image reader under the maintained image forming conditions in the mode memory; and

a job stopping controller for stopping a print operation of a job being printed by the printer ~~image output unit~~;

wherein the command ~~means~~ unit generates a command of discarding image data of the job stopped by the job stopping controller; and

wherein the image data discarding controller discards the image data of the job stopped by the job stopping controller and maintains the image forming conditions of the job.

11. (Original) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 10, further comprising changing means for changing the maintained image forming conditions.

12. (Original) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 10, wherein the image reader and the printer operate independently, and the image memory stores image data for a plurality of jobs.

13. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein the print control ~~means~~ unit give priority to a new job for printing under the maintained forming conditions over the rest of the jobs on a waiting list.

14. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein if the image reader is reading another original, the command ~~means~~ unit generates a command of suspending the reading operation, and at the same time, it generates a command of discarding the image data to be printed.

15. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein if the image reader is reading another original, the command ~~means~~ unit generates a command of discarding the image data to be printed after the reading operation for another original has been completed.

16. (Previously Amended) An image forming method, comprising:

storing image data in an image memory;

storing image forming conditions for the image data in a memory;

printing an image on a paper, based on the image data stored in the image memory, under the image forming conditions stored in the memory;

generating a command of discarding the image data whose image is being printed;

stopping a print operation of the image data being printed and erasing the image data from the image memory in response to the command, while maintaining the associated image forming conditions in the memory;

acquiring new image data and storing the new image data in the image memory; and

printing a new image on a paper, based on the newly acquired image data, under the image forming conditions maintained in the memory.

17. (Original) The image forming method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the step of changing the maintained image forming conditions.

18. (Previously Amended) The image forming method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the step of printing image data of another print job on a waiting list after the newly acquired image data has completely been printed.

19. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a first memory for storing image data;

a second memory for storing image forming conditions;

an image output unit for printing image data stored in a first memory under the image forming conditions stored in the second memory;

a command ~~means~~ unit for generating a command of discarding the image data being printed from the image output unit;

an image data discarding controller for discarding the image data stored in the first memory when the command of discarding the image data is generated by the command means, while maintaining the associated image forming conditions stored in the second memory;

a job stopping controller for stopping a print operation of a job being printed by the image output unit;

wherein the command ~~means~~ unit generates a command of discarding the image data of the job stopped by the job stopping controller; and

wherein the image data discarding controller discards the image data of the job stopped by the job stopping controller and maintains the image forming conditions of the job;

an image input unit for inputting image data to the first memory; and

an output control ~~means~~ unit for causing the output unit to output image data newly input from the image input unit under the maintained image forming conditions;

wherein the first memory stores a plurality of image data, and the output control ~~means~~ unit gives priority to the newly inputted image data to be printed under the maintained image forming conditions over the rest of the image data.